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## INFORMATION REPORT INFORMATION REPORT

## CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

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S E C R E T

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REPORT

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report containing information on cold storage installations in  
Poland

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1. All of the cold storage installations in Poland were organized by the Central Directorate of Refrigeration Installations, which is subordinated to the Ministry of Agriculture Foodstuffs Industry and Purchases. The refrigeration installations, however, are supplied by the Central Directorate for Machine Construction, which is subordinated to the Ministry of Machine Industry, and installed by still another institution. The buildings in which the refrigeration units are installed are constructed under the auspices of the Ministry of Building and Building Materials. In consequence of the numerous authoritative bodies, there is considerable incoordination among the offices and waste of both time and money.
2. A number of planning offices for dairy and meat plants are responsible for the planning and supervising of food storage and

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refrigeration installations. These offices are located in Warsaw, Gdansk (Danzig), and Wroclaw (Breslau). The Wroclaw office is located at No. 1 Zadzisianska Street and employs approximately 30 workers. The offices are maintained by the Ministry of Food and Agriculture within the framework of the Central Directorate for Dairy and Meat Industry, located in Warsaw. Prior to 1956, they were subordinated to the Ministry of Food, which at that time operated as an independent body. From 1949 to 1954, the offices planned and supervised the construction of twelve cold storage buildings in Warsaw, Opole (Oppeln), Gdansk (Danzig), Szczecin (Stettin), Lodz, Debica, Torun, Poznan, Lublin, Tychy, and two unknown locations.

3. The refrigeration equipment for the cold storage plant in Tychy (N 50-08, E 18-59) was supplied by the following two Polish firms: the Zaklady Imienia Szatkowskiego in Krakow, formerly known as the Zieleniewski & Firmer; and the Huta Geda-Swistochlewice, which manufactures air compressors for refrigeration purposes. Refrigeration machinery is also imported from the following firms: the Hahnfeld and the DKN in East Germany

and the Skoda in Czechoslovakia. All of the machines operate with ammonia, which is produced in Poland. Freon, which is imported from East Germany, is used in some small installations, however, including those used for storing fish. The

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letter were imported [redacted] by the Central Fishing Authority.

4. Construction of the cold storage plant in Tychy, which was planned and supervised by the Wroclaw office, began in 1953 and was completed in approximately 1955. Consisting of five stories, one of which is underground, the building is 30 x 30 meters in size and has a storage space of approximately 300 square meters.
5. There is an air-conditioning and heating plant within the Faculty of Sanitary Engineering at the Wroclaw Polytechnic Institute which serves the teaching staff of the institute. Plans for refrigeration and heating installations are made at the plant, which also inspects blueprints prepared by other planning offices. Because of the higher technological knowledge and competence of its employees, various jobs can be executed with greater speed and accuracy at this plant than at others. The plant has recently completed the following projects:
  - a. A skating rink installation at the Popular Hall (Hala Ludowa) in Wroclaw, which has a detachable floor constructed over the ice-surface.
  - b. An air-conditioning installation at the Chemical Fertilizer Factory in Kedzierzyn (Haydobrecki, N 50-21, E 18-12). The air-humidity must be regulated to prescribed conditions in the storage rooms for Salecsak, a nitric compound which is highly sensitive to humidity changes in the air.

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c. Ventilation systems for the large Celviskoza artificial silk and textile plant in the southern part of Jelenia Gora (Hirschberg), on the road to Cieplice (Bad Warmbrunn, N 50-52, E 15-42). Sulfuric carbon, a colorless and highly dangerous gas, is generated in the production process at the plant, which employs approximately 1,000 workers. The maximum amount of the gas which is believed can safely be inhaled is 0.002 percent. An extensive ventilation system was therefore necessary to prevent this figure from increasing. The original ventilation system at the plant was installed by a Czech firm and proved to be faulty, causing corrosion of the machinery. There were cases of illness, and even death, from gas poisoning at the plant.<sup>1</sup> In early 1956, the plant of the Wroclaw Polytechnic Institute began plans for a new ventilation system, which has now been installed and is in perfect operation.

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Comments: The Polish Attorney General is collecting evidence and witnesses against the management of the Celviskoza Factory for their alleged attempt to conceal the accidents which occurred at the plant.

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